

January 2, 2019



Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary

Federal Communications Commission

445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW

Washington DC 20554

**Re: GN Docket No. 17-183, *Expanding Flexible Use in Mid-Band Spectrum between 3.7 and 24 GHz***

**ET Docket No. 18-295, *Unlicensed Use of the 6 GHz Band***

***Ex Parte* Communication**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am filing this letter on behalf of Riverbend Communications LLC, licensee of six broadcast stations.

Our company operates a 6 GHz point to point microwave system. We also own a registered downlink in the 3.7 to 4.2 GHz band, and the corresponding uplinks use the 6 GHz frequencies. This downlink is used to receive important programming which is broadcast to our listeners over a large geographical area. If either system experienced interference, there is no immediate backup on other bands available. Important, timely information and news could be lost and be unavailable to the listening public.

In addition, some broadcast stations use their registered downlinks to receive EAS alerts on the national level, in lieu of being able to receive a PEP station in their operational area. Clearly, this is a critical function which should not be subject to any interference whatsoever.

We urge the FCC to maintain the proposal for AFC for all unlicensed devices in bands 5925-6425 MHz and 6525-6875 MHz. Analysis by the Fixed Wireless Communications Commission proves that AFC is needed regardless of power level or location of the unlicensed device.

We urge the FCC to ensure that the database used for the AFC system is accurate and up-to-date before unlicensed devices are installed.

We urge the FCC to carefully review the data provided by the Fixed Wireless Communications Commission on the need to ensure that fixed link adjacent channels are fully protected.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "William H. Traue". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "William" and last name "Traue" clearly legible.

William H. Traue

Chief Engineer

Riverbend Communications LLC

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